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THE COMMITTEE ON OUTER SPACE

On Feb. 20, the Space Committee of the U.S. Senate put on its helmets and elected Space Cadet Johnson of Texas (seated, 2nd from left) as its chairman. While the rest of us mortals were worrying about such inner-space frivolities as jobs, bankruptcies and breadlines (see right), Johnson was airlifted to Texas to greet the young soldier who spent a week in a simulated space ship to the moon. Said Johnson fervently as the cabin was opened: "This is the greatest opportunity for peace that has come in our time." What rhymes with moon? Buffoon?

BIGGEST DEMONSTRATION IN YEARS

Britain in an uproar over rocket bases and bombs

By Cedric Belfrage

LONDON

MORE THAN 5,000 persons jammed Westminster's Central Hall and three overflow halls on Feb. 17 in the biggest indoor demonstration this city has seen since the war. The rally was called by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, headed by eminent philosopher Bertrand Russell. More than 1,000 persons were turned away from the overcrowded meeting rooms.

In addition to Russell, the speakers were novelist J. B. Priestley, right-wing military expert Sir Stephen King-Hall, Christian Socialist schoolmaster Sir Richard Acland, Canon Collins of St. Paul's, **Tribune** editor Michael Foot and Oxford professor A. J. P. Taylor.

Politically they had one thing in common: hostility in varying degrees to communism. But this was not a party-political occasion. The several MP's present were down in the aisles as ushers, passing the hat for a bumper collection of £1,750.

The audience was a cross-section of Britons driven by their leaders' nuclear lunacy to exasperated action for morality, common sense and survival. For weeks of mounting popular alarm, a few MP's had pressed in vain for a breath of sanity from the government on nuclear patrols flying overhead, on U.S. rocket bases in Britain, on the necessity for negotiations now to avert a holocaust.

The issue was thus summed up by Russell: "It is now an even chance whether any human being will exist 40 years hence." And Taylor was thunderously applauded when he said that any politician of any party who defended the H-bomb should be publicly branded a murderer.

CARDINAL POINT: Priestley's moral appeal for British initiative against "collective madness" had the greatest impact. Taylor compared the issue with the abolition of the slave trade, when "leaders" of all involved nations said they could not abandon it unless others did, but opposing groups simply said: "It's wrong." "Nothing else but this," said Taylor, "makes sense in politics today."

King-Hall insisted that merely for its military security Britain must abandon

(Continued on Page 8)

BANKRUPTCIES AND BREADLINES

Whole nation feels business down-skid; 6,000,000 lose jobs

By Elmer Bendiner

"The very strong and robust economy is suffering from indigestion and over-exertion."

—Wm. McChesney Martin, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, testifying before the House-Senate Economic Committee.

IT WAS HARD to convince a hungry man that his problem was how to digest a rich diet, or an idle one that his difficulty was over-exertion. Politicians' prescriptions were written as if unemployment were largely psychosomatic. Vice President Nixon put on a cheerful bedside manner and tried a home remedy that was last used shortly after 1929. He said: "There is nothing wrong with the nation's economy that a good dose of confidence won't cure."

These were some of the facts that made the dose hard to swallow:

According to government figures there were close to 5,000,000 unemployed in the country last week. Unofficial estimates put the figure at well over 6,000,000. Last year saw the greatest number of bankruptcies in the nation's history. And breadlines were forming in some areas as the unemployed exhausted their benefits.

5-MONTH SLIDE: In January industrial production skidded down through its fifth month of a steady, steep slide. One-third of the nation's major industrial centers had what was termed "substantial labor surplus." These included St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Newark, Louisville, Detroit, Kansas City, Mo., Portland, Ore. Business papers spoke of a "broad curtailment in durable goods industries." The executive council of the AFL-CIO was due to meet in Washington March 11-13 to study what council spokesmen called "the calamitous business decline."

The only spot in the country where the boom still lingered was in New Mexico where one-third of all wages are paid directly by the Federal government and where the White Sands proving grounds for missiles are being expanded with a flow of dollars. The missile boom did not reach far from the desert and the picture in most other areas ranged from depressing to grim.

In the Northeast overtime had virtually disappeared. Unemployment was up 68% over last year in most places. The cut in purchasing power was showing up in a variety of ways: purchases of major appliances was off from 10 to 20%. Even those still at work were buying less. To merchants everywhere the big worry was not the Federal budget but the housewife's.

NEW ENGLAND STORY: The textile industry had been among the first to slump and New England was hard hit. Last month over the "lobster network" of Maine radio stations came appeals from a "Good Neighbor" committee of businessmen for food to be rushed to the twin towns of Biddeford and Saco, Me., where 30% of the working force is jobless. The trouble began a year ago with shutdowns and short weeks. The

(Continued on Page 5)

London Daily Mirror

"What do you mean, you have nothing to live for? The house isn't paid for, the car isn"t paid for, the TV set isn't . . ."

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SIX MORE PROBES SCHEDULED

More witches now than ever, hunters claim

NO ONE IS LIKELY to accuse the House Committee on Un-American Activities of not knowing a good thing when it sees it.

In the Watkins decision last June the Supreme Court found that the committee's mandate was so vague that "it is impossible . . . to ascertain whether any legislative purpose justifies the disclosures sought." During the past year a movement to abolish the committee has enlisted the support of many prominent Americans.

But the House would not take the hint. With hardly a murmur of opposition, it voted the un-Americans $305,000 for this year's "work," just as it has expended public funds for hunting political witches ever since Martin Dies set up shop as the first committee chairman in 1938. A 20-year habit is hard to kick.

So the un-Americans go merrily along. They have not exposed a single "plot" or "spy" in two decades, but a hearing is still good for headlines. Chairman Francis E. Walter (D-Pa.) has announced six for 1958 and the first folded its tent in Gary, Ind., on Feb. 11 (see story on page 4). The second, a foray into the N.Y. City Housing authority, got underway on Feb. 27.

7-DAY-WONDERS: While the hearings were proceeding in Gary the committee issued its 1957 report. The document, released on seven successive days, presumably on the assumption that seven headlines are better than one, was described in I. F. Stone's **Weekly** (1/27) as a "gold mine for psychiatric study." The report declared: "The degree of success which the Communist Party achieves has no direct relationship to the size of the party itself."

Any seeming fallacy in the proposition that the smaller the CP the greater its influence was taken care of by committee member Gordon H. Scherer (R-Ohio)

(Continued on Page 4)

Count Me In

On our 1958 campaign for 10,000 new GUARDIAN subscribers

- ☐ I will help in my neighborhood (shop, local, political or other organization, on my campus or other area.)
- ☐ Send me a free bundle of 3 GUARDIANS weekly until further notice, to show around.
- ☐ Send me a supply of $1 introductory sub blanks and business reply envelopes.
- ☐ Reserve a copy of Vito Marcantonio's book "I Vote My Conscience" for me, as offered on p. 8.

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... Zone ..... State.....

THE MAIL BAG

World's elect

BROOKLYN, N.Y.

NATIONAL GUARDIAN adds another star to its crown with the four-page tribute to W.E.B. DuBois. He is one of the world's elect and to his protean endowments of intellect, vision and unflagging fortitude we owe an eternal debt.

But we can requite this debt—in part—by making it possible for his work to go on unhampered—a richly rewarding investment. Two remaining books of his trilogy await only necessary funds for publication; many of his books, now out of print, should be republished; publication of his current work must be assured. His autobiography is in preparation.

Be they large or small, contributions to the DuBois Fund will open—and keep open—a box of creative riches in which myriads of his present friends will share and for the future make his achievements known to thousands more.

Muriel I. Symington

New Yorkers still have time to bring contributions to the 90th Birthday Reception for Dr. DuBois on Sunday afternoon, March 2, at the Hotel Roosevelt. Out-of-towners can mail contributions to DuBois XC, 100 W. 23rd St., N. Y. 11.
—Editor.

Protest to HST

TOKYO, JAPAN

The Hiroshima Municipal Assembly has sent a strong protest to former President Truman over his statement that his conscience was untroubled by having ordered atom bombs to be dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The protest accuses Mr. Truman of "defiling the citizens of Hiroshima and the victims of the atom bombs," and requests him to withdraw his statement in the name of peace and humanity.

Yesterday, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission announced the danger area in the Pacific for the 1958 nuclear weapons tests.

Again?

No more nuclear bombs. Stop tests!

Shingo Shibata

'Loyalized'

WASHINGTON, D.C.

I watched the TV interview between Harry Truman and Edward R. Murrow in which li'l old Harry belittled the loyalty hysteria, blaming it all on McCarthy. Is his memory so faulty that he could not remember that he was the author of the first Presidential Order outlining loyalty procedures?

I feel flattered that after eight years from the date I was loyalized I am still considered something of an authority in my particular field in engineering. Occasionally I am called on for certain research jobs in my field, but I have consistently refused to touch classified information.

Name Withheld

Helping hand of labor

WILLOWICK, O.

We were very pleased to see the Report to Readers in the Feb. 10 GUARDIAN on the Cleveland Taft-Hartley Case.

It isn't quite accurate to say that we have the burden, without trade union backing except for rank and file contributions, of carrying the appeal. It is certainly true that official union support is far from adequate.

Nonetheless, since our conviction the Wayne County (Detroit) CIO Council has voted a resolution of support and a financial contribution. Prior to that there were supporting actions and contributions from the following unions: Chicago District No. 1 of the United Packinghouse Workers plus six Chicago locals; UAW Local 453, Chicago; UAW Locals 600 and 212, Detroit; Amalgamated Retail Meat Cutters Locals 427 and 500, Cleveland; Local 72 MESA, Cleveland; Local 6 ILWU, San Francisco; Ohio Brass Local IAM, Mansfield, Ohio; IAM Local 2155, Cleveland; Painter's Local 867, Cleveland; Chicago Joint Council United Shoeworkers of America, and Lake County (Ohio) Federation of Labor (AFL central body).

Eric J. Reinthaler

On Feb. 19 the seven Cleveland T-H conspiracy defendants were sentenced to 18-month prison terms and $2,500 fines each. All were able to post bail pending appeals except Reinthaler, who was sent to Cuyahoga County Jail until his counsel produced bail Friday afternoon, Feb. 21. He spent Wednesday night in the bull pen. On Thursday morning, although Federal prisoners are supposed to be kept on the fifth floor, Reinthaler was moved to the fourth floor with a group of young toughs. Someone passed the word that Reinthaler was a "Red." Here is Reinthaler's report of what happened:

"Early Thursday evening I began hearing comments and shouts of "Red," "Commie," "Stalin," etc. Then I heard one guy say, 'Let's get him like they got the bastard at Lewisburg.' (Referring I suppose to William Remington, who was stabbed to death).

"Anyway, about eight of them rushed into my cell, holding me down, kicking and punching, tearing up my clothes and bunk. I managed to fight and crawl my way into the range and yell for help. They scattered and the guards came and transferred me to another floor. The deputy chief jailer wouldn't let me call either my lawyer or the U.S. Marshal.

"It was a terrifying experience and could have been personally disastrous. The jailers wanted me to point out the guys who did it, but what would have been the percentage? Those punks are products of the times, the press and what I consider some uncalled for and inflammatory comments by the judge."

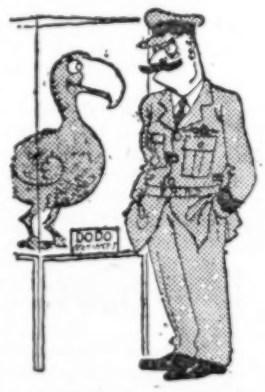
How Crazy Can You Get Dept.

From a medical-psychological view, Col. Steinkamp said, the main problem [in manning satellites] is bringing a man back to earth.

"This cuts deep into the philosophy of the American way," he said. "No parent would stand for sending his son into space if there were not a reasonable chance of getting him back."

—N.Y. Herald Tribune Feb. 14.

One year free sub to sender of each item printed under this heading. Be sure to send original clip with each entry. Winner this week:
Tima Ludins, New York, N. Y.



Lancaster in London Express

Complete victory

NEW HAVEN, CONN.

The Connecticut Smith Act case has ended in a complete victory for all the defendants.

On Feb. 7 Judge Robert Anderson, the trial judge, dismissed the case.

The defendants wish to express to your newspaper and its readers our thanks for your help in our behalf.

But our joy is tempered by the fact that there are still in prison two men serving eight-year terms on the same charge. They are Henry Winston and Gilbert Green, the only remaining imprisoned victims of this thought-control legislation. We urge everyone to write to President Eisenhower asking for their release.

Sid Taylor,
For the Connecticut Smith Act Defendants

Aloha

HONOLULU, T.H.

The enclosed check ($50) is in honor of seven fine citizens (the Hawaii Seven Smith Act defendants) exonerated by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Please use this to continue with your grand little machine gun, the NATIONAL GUARDIAN.

May we all never stop until Morton Sobell and all others who are unjustly persecuted are freed.

Adele Rosenstein

Note to bus riders

YOUNGSTOWN, O.

Enclosed find $1 in cash for a 13-week trial subscription as you state in your newspaper which I found on a city bus.

George Penezich

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the progressive newsweekly

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CEDRIC BELFRAGE, Editor-in-Exile — JOHN T. McMANUS, General Manager — JAMES ARONSON, Editor

EDITORIAL STAFF: Elmer Bendiner, Louis E. Burnham, Lawrence Emery, Kumar Goshal, Robert Joyce (Art), Robert E. Light (Production), Tabitha Petran. LIBRARIAN: Jean Norrington. PROMOTION and CIRCULATION: George Evans. ADVERTISING and BUYING SERVICE: Lillian Kolt. GUARDIAN EVENTS: Theodora Peck. SAN FRANCISCO-BAY AREA REPRESENTATIVE: Isabel Van Frank, 2134 Grant St., Berkeley 3, Calif. FOREIGN BUREAUS: Cedric Belfrage (London), Anne Bauer (Paris), George Wheeler (Prague), Wilfred Burchett (Moscow), Ursula Wassermann (roving correspondent).

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REPORT TO READERS

Who's counting?

PERHAPS A SHORT CHEER is called for at this point, as our drive for 10,000 new GUARDIAN readers enters its second month. At press time for this issue upwards of 1,400 new introductory subs had been received.

However, our analysis of the yield to date indicates that those old standbys, our Buck of the Month pledgers, have been doing most of the sub-getting—paying special heed to our monthly reminder that pledge dollars will do double duty if accompanied by the names of new, trial subscribers. The next biggest yield has come from people renewing their subs for '58, taking advantage of our offer to include one new trial subscriber free with the new $5 renewal price.

The rest have been coming in steadily, one, two or three at a time via the group sub blank on p. 8. We have already mailed out some 75 copies of the late Rep. Vito Marcantonio's speeches and writings, **I Vote My Conscience**, as a free premium for three new readers. Of course many more people have already sent us one or two readers toward winning a "Marc" book, but without putting a slide-rule on the problem, we can safely estimate that so far not more than 1,000 of you current readers have pitched in.

THIS MEANS that only one in each 35 GUARDIAN readers has been able thus far to find one single, solitary soul who will give the GUARDIAN a 13-week trial. There are a lot of factors behind this statistic, we know. One is that abiding old devil, apathy. But mainly we think the problem is that there is so little hell a-popping Left of Center these days in these United States. Yet lack of organization does not necessarily mean lack of contact with good-thinking individuals, nor does it mean that everybody is temporarily inactive.

On the contrary, you yourself are quite probably involved in getting signatures on petitions to ban the H-bomb tests, to seek Presidential intervention for Morton Sobell, to win freedom for the remaining Smith Act victims, to help carry civil liberties battles successfully through the courts, to abolish the Congressional witch-hunts—not to mention a baker's dozen of vital defenses throughout the country.

What newspaper do you read which does more to publicize and stimulate such actions than the GUARDIAN? Would not each of these causes benefit if more people knew about them and would buckle down to work on them?

IF NONE of these arguments can budge you, how about pitching in just to win yourself a free copy of the "Marc" book? There's some mighty fine reading in those 494 pages—Marcantonio as a legislator was a model of what a people's representative ought to be. For example, from the first round he fought the Dies Committee and its successors. Not till ten years later did the Supreme Court get around to opining (in the 1957 Watkins decision) what Marc stated in Nov., 1947:

"If the investigation does not come within a field over which Congress has the power to legislate, then that investigation . . . is illegal, and anyone who is questioned in such an investigation has a right to refuse to answer any and every question."

Later in the same argument he said:

"It seems that this Committee and the Congress . . . have taken the position that democracy is synonymous with the rule of monopoly capital . . . that anyone who protests against the rule of monopoly capital, . . . anyone who seeks a social and economic change, is subversive . . .

"It is a repetition of history. It was done this way in Germany, it was done this way in Italy, and if I have to be alone again in this Congress, I will cast my vote against it ever happening in the United States of America."

THE SUPREME COURT is still a decade behind Marc on that point of view, but a lot of plain citizens are now beginning to see the actions of Congressional investigators in very much the same light.

These are the people we need and want for new GUARDIAN readers—and you know who they are in your neck of the woods. Let's sign them up for a 13-week seminar in what's really going on in the world today.

And when you get your copy of the Marcantonio book, pass it around with some marked passages in it. People might like to see for themselves how a real Congressman represents his constituents.

—THE GUARDIAN

DRAGGING HEELS ON SUMMIT TALKS

Washington balks an airing of Algerian-Tunisian crisis

By Kumar Goshal

PRESSURE FROM ABROAD for an early summit meeting continued to mount last week as Washington dragged its feet. To make matters worse, it was pursuing the same old blind policy on colonial questions and on foreign aid to underdeveloped countries.

In addition to the overwhelming Asian-African sentiment for a top-level conference, N.Y. **Times** correspondents from major European capitals reported (2/23) that Washington's "cautious approach was finding few adherents." Both Socialist and Conservative politicians and diplomats in London felt "a summit conference this year is inevitable" and feared "the West has taken rather too defensive an attitude" towards it.

Paris regarded a mid-summer meeting as "absolutely certain" because "no one dares refuse it now that it has captured the imagination of broad segments of public opinion." Even the West German government seemed "to have gotten lost in the shuffle of worldwide pressure for summit talks and is now waiting for Washington to call the turn."

TEN-YEAR TRUCE? There was pressure at home, too, notably from former Presidential adviser Harold Stassen and members of his staff. Columnist Drew Pearson reported (2/20) that, before resigning his post, Stassen in a confidential report to the President said he was certain Moscow was ready to negotiate a ten-year truce in the cold war. He strongly urged Mr. Eisenhower to meet with Soviet leaders immediately. Pearson said:

Burck in Chicago Sun-Times
BEAU GESTE

"Other American diplomats, having no ax to grind for or against Stassen, generally agree . . . Though Ike went out of his way to write a cordial friendly letter to Stassen when he resigned, it's Dulles' policies he's following in regard to Russia."

White House disarmament staff director Robert E. Matteson backed Stassen in a speech on Feb. 18 before the University of Minnesota Conference on National Security. On the basis of talks with Soviet leaders over a decade, he said, he believed Moscow "would like to negotiate an agreement with the U.S. for the purpose of relaxing tension [especially] in the disarmament field."

POST UNFILLED: The White House, however, showed no desire to fill the post vacated by Stassen, nor did it contradict a report that the Senate Disarmament Subcommittee would be dissolved July 31.

On Feb. 20 the U.S. headed off a UN Security Council discussion of the French-Tunisian conflict by pressuring Paris and Tunis to accept the good offices of Washington and London. The U.S. thus prevented UN involvement in taking up the Algerian issue. If this is not settled—as Tunisian President Bourguiba said—there can be no resolution of the French-Tunisian border conflict.

The Security Council adjourned without setting a deadline for the good-offices effort, despite Tunisian Ambassador Mongi Slim's pleas. Slim reserved the right to recall the Council because his government had "some fears that difficulties might arise."

AID TO ALGERIA: Difficulties arose even as he spoke. Paris announced it would create a 20-to-30-mile No Man's Land between Tunisia and Algeria to block arms supplies to the Algerian freedom fighters. Tunis closed five French consulates on the border; the French retaliated by barricading the village of Remada and arresting several local Tunisian officals for "cooperating" with the Algerian fighters.

In the strongest stand he has yet taken on Algerian independence, Bourguiba on Feb. 23 said that, just as the U.S. aided the Allies in the early days of World War II, Tunisia would help the Algerians in every way "short of war." He added: "We are not one of the belligerents, but we are not neutral either. We will not help the French to close the border against our Algerian brothers." The pro-government Tunisian weekly **L'Action** said: "It is certain that the [Anglo-U.S.] good offices, undertaken without any definition of their object, have very little chance of achieving a result."

Vicky in New Statesman, London
"WHATEVER IT IS, WE'RE AGAINST IT."

AID—FOR GUNS ONLY: Despite the State Dept.'s own admiring report on "massive" Soviet non-military economic aid to underdeveloped countries, the Administration has once again asked Congress for foreign aid appropriations earmarked largely for military aid to U.S. allies.

For fiscal 1959, the President asked for $3,900,000,000, of which only $1,000,000,000 would be scheduled for purely economic aid to Asia, Africa and Latin America. Even this economic aid would amount to little because of the drop in world prices of primary products exported by the underdeveloped countries. Last year, according to UN figures, these prices dropped 15-50% and primary producers lost nearly $700,000,000 in export income.

The continued emphasis on military aid indicates an alcost congental inability of the Administration to profit from facts that its own agencies have unearthed. Military aid, as Rep. Henry S. Reuss (D-Wisc.) noted (**The Reporter**, 2/6), has been a burden on America's Asian allies, without even any compensating increase in building effective fighting forces.

UNHEEDED PLEA: Reuss said that, "according to a little publicized report of the General Accounting Office issued last August, some of our military allies have been unable to set up 'as effective fighting forces the units for which the U.S. is providing equipment'; the size of military forces in some countries . . . is based on 'political motivation' rather than 'military considerations'." He said that some armies supported by the U.S. "seem outsized in relation to the population and the resources of the [allied] country," and in many cases "our arms are likely to be used not against communist aggressors but against neighbors."

Reuss urged Washington "to de-emphasize the military and accentuate the positive" by channeling U.S. economic aid "through the World Bank and the Special UN Fund for Economic Development." Thus far, the Administration has turned a deaf ear to his plea.

THE MEDDLING FINGERS OF THE WEST

Indonesia: The background to trouble — and danger

TROUBLE SIMMERING in Indonesia for the past year came close to the boiling point last week as President Sukarno returned home from a five-week prestige-building tour of other Asian countries. Some of the spoons stirring the pot had long handles, reaching as far as The Hague, London and Washington.

On the surface, the trouble apparently stemmed from the discontent of the outer islands against what they considered domination by Java, where nearly three-fourths of the 80,000,000 Indonesians live. These islands complained that they received less than their share of funds for economic and social development from the central government. The center of discontent was in Sumatra, which produces most of the exportable mineral and agricultural products and has the strongest pro-Western elements among prominent Indonesians.

EARLIER EVENTS: The outer islands had some grounds for complaint. But this was largely resolved last year. Then two other events precipitated an even sharper conflict:

PRESIDENT SUKARNO
He wanted a guide to democracy

- Last spring Sukarno announced his "guided" democracy policy, calling for cooperation by all political parties, including the Communist Party, in a National Council.
- Last December the government began taking over Dutch-owned banks, shipping and other interests.

The pro-Western Indonesians in Sumatra, with the apparent support of Dutch, British and American interests, opposed these two actions. They set up an arms-smuggling and trading agency in Singapore, threatened to create a rival administration unless the Communists were removed from the government, and former Vice President Mohammed Hatta—a firm anti-Communist—was recalled to form a new government.

There followed a series of assassination attempts on the leaders of the trade union organization (SOBSI), on CP general secy. Aidit and even on the president. Sukarno left on his tour, evidently hoping for a compromise solution during his absence. It did not materialize; rather, a dissident delegation went to Japan to give Sukarno an ultimatum.

INTERFERENCE: On Feb. 15, pro-Western dissidents set up a rival government in the Sumatran port city of Padang; proclaimed their loyalty to Hatta; invited more foreign investments in Indonesia; asked Sumatran oil field owners (Royal Dutch Shell, Standard Vacuum and Caltex) to stop paying taxes to the government in Java; sought diplomatic recognition from Western countries; asked New York's Federal Reserve Bank to block the foreign reserves of the Sukarno government.

Jakarta called the rival government a "silly thing," but severed all communications with Sumatra. Sukarno conferred with Hatta, who had thus far refused to endorse or denounce the Sumatra regime.

The press in Java has long accused the West of interfering in Indonesia. Evidence has been presented in Indonesian courts of plots against the government. Jakarta has accused the Dutch of fomenting trouble in the Moluccas and supplying arms to the fanatically religious Darul Islam organization from Holland's base in West Irian. Without British support, arms smuggling and illegal trade in Indonesian products could not be carried on via Singapore and Hong Kong.

DISPUTED CABLES: The Bombay weekly **Blitz** (9/28/57) printed photostats of two decoded cables sent from the U.S. Embassy in Java to Washington. They were said to have been obtained from copies sent to the U.S. Embassy in Taipei and lost during the anti-U.S. riots there last May.

The first cable spoke of "the necessity of increasing military aid" to the Darul Islam forces "now operating in Sumatra," and foretold the possibility of a "Sumatran government" which would "break with the Central government." The second said that "arms sent to [the Darul Islam] from Formosa and Malaya must carry no trade mark and should be placed in containers used locally for agricultural machinery, textiles, canned food and the like." The State Dept. has denied the authenticity of the cables.

The press in Java condemned Secy. of State Dulles' criticism on Feb. 11 of Sukarno's "guided" democracy. Dulles spoke of "the trend in recent months . . . in the islands other than Java of concern at growing Communist influence in the government in Java."

The **Christian Science Monitor** reported (2/18): "The U.S. has been caught up, not unwillingly it appears, in the [Indonesian] political crisis . . . The rebel regime there has the sympathy, if not yet the diplomatic backing, of Washington [because it] conforms more with American hopes and wishes for this vast and resources-rich archipelago than the Sukarno regime."

UN-AMERICANS HIT AND RUN

Gary steel workers defy probe; 10 refuse to talk

By Frank Wilkinson

PRECEDED BY CHARGES of "communist infiltration" of the steel industry, the House Committee on Un-American Activities on Feb. 10-11 questioned 15 steel workers in Gary, Ind., and abruptly broke off the hearings before the end of the second day after ten of the witnesses invoked the First Amendment. Three subpenaed witnesses never reached the stand.

The Gary hearing was the sixth conducted by the committee since the Supreme Court's Watkins decision last June which many believed would curb the committee's activities. Chairman Francis E. Walter (D-Pa.) has announced that six other hearings around the country are currently scheduled.

The ten Gary witnesses who invoked the First Amendment based themselves

CONGRESSMAN WALTER
Broomsticks and headlines

on the Watkins decision which challenged the vagueness of the committee's charter and its practices in general.

ACLU PROTESTS: Four days before the hearings, the Calumet Area Chapter of the Indiana Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) made public a resolution protesting the hearings and on Feb. 8 placed a 5-column ad in the Gary **Post-Tribune** urging public protests and quoting from the Watkins decision: "There is no Congressional power to expose for the sake of exposure. Nor is the Congress a law enforcement . . . or trial agency."

Chairman Walter responded to the criticism by charging that the "situation is more serious now than at any other time in our existence . . . Even with its shrunken forces, the Communist Party's main objective is to get back into the mainstream of labor."

In a statement opening the hearings, Walter said their main purpose was to determine if his omnibus Internal Securities Act bill "should be passed as it now stands or whether some parts of it should be changed and tightened even further." When he introduced the bill last year, Walter said it was aimed at evading or nullifying recent Supreme Court decisions in the field of civil liberties.

THE FINGERMAN: John Lautner, a professional informer, was billed as a "secret witness" who had never been in Gary. His "surprise testimony" was an hour-long repetition of his experiences in the CP from 1930 to 1950.

A veteran Gary mill worker, Joseph E. LaFleur, described by the Gary **Post-Tribune** as "a fingerman for the FBI for 15 years," personally picked the 18 subpenaed witnesses. In a personal press release in advance of the hearings, LaFleur said regarding his prior testimony in Washington: "We reached the understanding that they [the committee] would hold the hearings here to give all of them a chance to face their accuser . . . One of the things we did while I was in Washington was to go over the list of names I gave them to work out the ones I thought would be 'friendly' to the committee."

Four persons named as CP members denied LaFleur's charges when called before the committee. One, identified by LaFleur as "very ambitious, very militant," declared from the stand: "I never met the man . . . I've had no connection with the party for over 18 years." Another complained bitterly to Walter that the report on LaFleur's testimony which he had read was "an absolute falsehood . . . I have never to my knowledge attended a Communist Party meeting."

'REAL NEAT': Although LaFleur was in the hearing room throughout the testimony of those who contradicted his statements, the committee did not put him on the stand to answer his victims' denials. Instead, Walter told him; "No

Information wanted

THE EMERGENCY Civil Liberties Committee (421 Seventh Ave., New York 1, N.Y.), embarked on its Abolition campaign, has offered its help to any person subpenaed by the Un-American Activities Committee. It is willing to send a representative to any city where the Committee plans to hold hearings. It urges any subpenaed person to communicate with it at the address above, in advance of the hearing date.

The GUARDIAN also asks its readers to let it know (in the form of memo or news clips) about any impending or current hearings by the Committee.

one can realize how great has been your contribution to your country . . . Your assistance may have been equal to a whole division of the Army."

The hearings were attended both days by an estimated audience of 350. The spectators were undemonstrative. An occasional touch of humor was the only break in the attentive silence which characterized the sessions.

Local ACLU president Mario Tomsich called the hearings "the circus I thought it was going to be," but Richard S. Kaplan, chairman of the American Legion's Counter-Subversive Committee, described them as "magnificent." A high school civics class, invited to attend by chairman Walter, said: "Real neat!"

There was no comment from either the steel companies employing the subpenaed witnesses nor from their union, the AFL-CIO United Steelworkers of America.

CONGRESS
PUBLIC WELFARE
$209,000.00 TO THE SENATE INTERNAL SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE
$305,000.00 TO THE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

Herblock in Washington Post
"Don't ask me why—it's an old ritual."

FRANK WILKINSON, of the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, was assistant to the director of the Los Angeles Housing Authority till 1952. He then became secretary of the L.A. Committee to Preserve American Freedoms.

JOSEPH LaFLEUR
A most experienced finger

More witches

(Continued from Page 1)

in his arguments before the House on Jan. 29 for the appropriation. Declaring that "we are presently at war with the Soviet Union," Scherer contended that "the hard core of the communist conspiracy" consists of: (1) the anti-communist Americans for Democratic Action; (2) the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, which leads the campaign for abolition, and (3) the liberal Washington **Post.**

Walters, in the same debate, read letters indicating that the demand for the committee's revelations is still strong among business leaders. A leading aircraft manufacturer wrote: "Committee publications and reports have been valuable to our security and investigative program." A defense plant executive explained that "extractions from [these publications] have assisted in keeping the communist menace in front of our personnel." Anticipating an indeterminate life for the committee, an official of a refugee aid committee declared wishfully: "May your last appropriation be voted the year after Marxism is no more."

BIGGEST ENEMY: On the Senate side the conviction that the Supreme Court is the greatest menace of all took shape in hearings on a bill to limit the appellate jurisdiction of the Court. The bill was introduced last July by Sen. William Jenner (R-Ind.). On Feb. 19 a subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee, headed by Sen. Eastland of Mississippi, began hearings which are scheduled to extend to March 7.

Under the Jenner bill the Court would be stripped of authority in the following fields: (1) the function of Congressional committees and contempt actions against witnesses; (2) the security program of the Federal government; (3) state anti-subversive legislation; (4) local school board actions concerning teacher-loyalty; (5) admissions to the bar in the respective states.

Civil liberties spokesmen expressed concern that no representative of the Eisenhower Administration had spoken out against the bill which would encourage the flouting of the Constitution by eliminating fear of correction by the High Court. Ernest Angell, board chairman of the American Civil Liberties Union, is scheduled to testify against the measure. The Emergency Civil Liberties Committee and other groups have requested the right to be heard.

WITCHES IN FLORIDA: While Eastland conducted the hearings a joint committee of the Florida legislature launched the kind of investigation that would be exempt from Federal review if the curb-the-Court bill passes. Thirty-five residents of Miami and Miami Beach were subpenaed before the committee, headed by Rep. Charley E. Johns of Starke, in the Miami Federal Courthouse, beginning Feb. 26. Johns said the hearings would be conducted on a "high plane" and were intended to "deter communist activities" in the fight for school integration. Observers saw in the following facts evidence that the more likely aims of the investigation was to stop all efforts at integration from whatever source:

Johns represents the extreme Dixiecrat wing of the Democratic Party in Florida and is an admitted former member of the Ku Klux Klan. He was acting Governor from September, 1953, to January, 1955, and is reported to have ambitions to succeed Gov. Leroy Collins, a moderate among Southern state executives on the segregation question.

The pressure for desegregation of the schools has mounted in recent months. On Feb. 6 Federal Judge Joseph P. Leib refused to dismiss a desegregation suit against the Dade County (Miami) school board and indicated that trial will start after March 17. The litigation has been pending for 18 months as a result of a suit filed by Rev. Theodore Gibson, NAACP president, on behalf of his son.

REAL TARGETS: Among the large number of NAACP members subpenaed were: Vernell Albury, Miami branch treas.; Dr. G. W. Hawkins, former pres.; G. E. Graves, NAACP attorney; Mrs. Blanch McKinney, former secy.; Ruth Perry, Miami Beach librarian and present secy.; and Rev. Edward T. Graham, a prominent church leader.

Via Nuove, Rome

Another target of the investigation was the Florida Council for Human Relations. A member of the organization, Mrs. A. Waldie Holroyd, complained: "I don't know why I have been subpenaed. I assume it is because I am active in the CHR. We have favored the school integration because we think integration will come eventually and we would like to see it done peacefully. We have been trying to allay fears."

In this, it seemed clear, Mrs. Holroyd would not have the cooperation of the committee. As the hearing opened it had spent but $17,000 of $75,000 appropriated for a two-year statewide investigation. Tampa and Jacksonville were believed next on its list.

HE WILL APPEAL

Scales gets 6 years in Smith Act case

A FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT on Feb. 21 handed down the first Smith Act conviction under the more rigorous requirements of evidence and procedure dictated by the Supreme Court in the Yates and Jencks cases. Junius I. Scales, former Communist Party chairman of North Carolina, was sentenced to six years in jail by Judge Albert V. Bryan.

Originally convicted in 1955 of "knowing membership" in the party, Scales' appeal was pending before the Supreme Court when the Justice Dept. called for a new trial. The government used 10 witnesses, as against three in the first proceeding. Headed by veteran informer John Lautner, appearing in his 18th Smith Act case, they sought to show that the CP's advocacy of socialism was not "abstract" but "action-inciting," as required by the Yates ruling. In response to demand of defense counsel Telford Taylor and McNeill Smith, the prosecution turned over reports of informers made to the FBI.

Scales, who resigned from the CP in 1957, remained free on $20,000 bail. He announced that he would appeal the decision and asked that contributions toward legal expenses be sent to him at 90 La Salle St., New York 27, N. Y.

190,000 UNEMPLOYED IN AUTO CAPITAL

Fear haunts Detroit as joblessness mounts

By George Breitman
Special to the Guardian

DETROIT

ONE OUT OF EVERY EIGHT workers in the Detroit area is out of a job. Unemployment and the fear of unemployment have become major influences in the lives of most Detroiters.

Some effects are coldly reflected in local court statistics:

• Child support complaints are flooding the courts. Many of these are old cases being reactivated by women who have remarried, an official explained: "As long as their present husbands are working they do not care too much if the 'ex' is behind in his alimony and support payments. As soon as things get tough, they register complaints."

• Land contract foreclosures have been mounting steadily; the number of people losing their homes is at an all-time high since World War II.

• Business foreclosures are up 50% over last year; the main streets are dotted with empty stores.

• Court officials are bracing themselves for a big jump in repossession cases in the spring; most creditors allow 60 to 90 days before starting court action against people who can't keep up payments.

• More than half of the city's parolees are out of work, and the parole chief reports a rise in all types of parole violations, including petty theft.

• On the other hand, there is a drop in wage garnishment cases; you've got to have wages before they can be garnisheed.

HAMBURGER DAYS: No cases of starvation have been reported so far among Detroit's 190,000 jobless. Most of them are entitled to unemployment compensation; maximum benefits are $55 a week, but the average is only $35.21. In addition, workers who are entitled to supplemental unemployment benefits (SUB) under union contracts can draw payments that average $13.40 a week, depending on seniority and other factors.

Welcome as these benefits are, they don't go very far at 1958 prices. Hamburger sales are up and steak sales are down, neighborhood merchants report. Many auto union members didn't know whether to laugh or cry at a big article in **UAW Solidarity** telling how good shrimp is and how to prepare it. "Thank God I'm still able to feed the kids," a worker said. "But I don't know how I'm going to make the next payment on the house."

The maximum period for state unemployment benefits is 26 weeks, but the average is only about 13 weeks. In December, 5,577 workers in the state exhausted their benefits; in January, 8,900; and the rate is going up, according to the Michigan Employment Security Commission.

DISASTER POINT: What happens to them? Some can get on relief. The Detroit case load in January was almost 50% higher than the previous year. The cost per case is $88.86 a month, close to the starvation level.

Last October (during National Thrift Week) a survey showed that the average

American family is "just 90 days from disaster . . . if the breadwinner loses his job or is incapacitated by illness." For most unemployed, the disaster point is now being reached.

The impact on those still working (there are no figures on how many are on part-time) may be just as great, though less dramatic or obvious. Fear of losing a job can be almost as painful as actually losing it. Many workers lose their tempers and walk away from a discussion of the question; they prefer to hear and think of other things. There seems to be a reduction in social gathering, at least in public places: the number of foreclosures of bars is up 75% over a year ago.

With thousands walking the streets, employed workers are more cautious on the job, arrive more punctually, follow the rules more closely, tolerate a little more from the foreman. A UAW local

not far from Detroit recently voted down a strike authorization for the first time in its history.

STILL MILITANT: This does not mean renunciation of all militancy. Auto corporations always try a speed-up with the fall model changeover. This time they have redoubled their efforts but are meeting real resistance. In the trim department of the Dodge main plant, 1,649 workers had been turning out 736 bodies a day. After a two-week layoff in January, only 1,225 workers were recalled (a 26% reduction) and the company demanded 776 bodies a day (a 6% increase).

A bitter struggle has resulted. The workers report for work every morning, the line is speeded up, the workers fail to keep up with it, the company shuts down the whole plant and sends everyone home for the day.

As this is written, the shut-down has happened every day for almost four weeks. This is the most gruelling, nerve-wracking kind of struggle for the workers, but they have stood up to it day after day. They are fighting not only for themselves but for their jobless brothers and sisters who will never be called back if the speed-up is successful. There is a great reservoir of labor solidarity and strength in the plants, waiting for the union leadership to tap it.

BITTERNESS: MESC offices are jammed; compensation payments have been reduced from every week to every two weeks. Bitterness and hopelessness are expressed by the people standing in the lines; bitterness is perhaps the more frequent. Comments about Eisenhower's assurance that things will pick up in March are often unprintable. "Hoover said prosperity was around the corner too," older men recall.

The predominant feeling is that the government must act; no one expects the corporation officials to do anything to change the situation, and few seem to have hope of the labor movement providing solutions. Anti-Republican sentiment is strong. The Democrats will probably benefit from this at the polls in November, but there is little enthusiasm about them expressed now.

But reactions are rarely uniform. In the 1950 and 1954 recessions, the papers printed many letters complaining about women and foreign-born workers having jobs when good Americans were laid off. There is some of that now, too, with an added wrinkle—letters denouncing people who buy inexpensive foreign cars as "traitors to America." Slumps often breed reactionary and nationalist feelings and fascist tendencies can be expected to exploit the situation if the labor movement fails to provide an alternative.

Stan in Labor's Daily

UNEASY POLITICIANS: At the same time one of the minority parties here, the Socialist Workers Party, campaigning for 30,000 signatures to win a place on the Michigan ballot this year, reports unusual success at the MESC offices, where a majority of its petitions have been obtained. SWP officials say the mood among the unemployed is receptive to radicalism, to the need for a labor party, to a fight for the 30-hour week at 40 hours pay.

City and state officials sense political trouble. At first, both Republican Mayor Miriani and Democratic Gov. Williams were for "economy" and "belt-tightening"—that is, cutting budgets and public payrolls (and government services), and demanding the allocation of "more defense work" for Michigan. Now they are beginning to talk about the need for public works programs and higher and longer jobless compensation. The uneasy feeling that top political office nowadays is a hot seat was expressed by a Republican State Senator well-known for his gubernatorial ambitions: "Who would want to be governor now?"

Skid in economy

(Continued from Page 1)

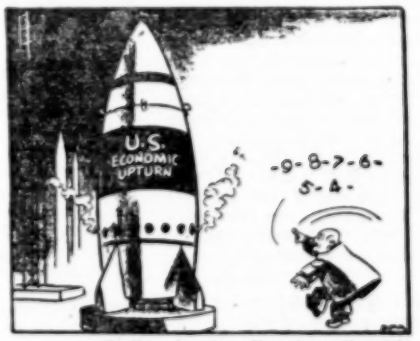
Saco-Lowell shops cut their workers by 20%; they had been staggering along making machine guns instead of textiles. The Pepperell Mfg. Co. went on a three- and four-day week. The twin-cities joint board of the United Textile Workers gave this picture of one man's problems: On a three-day work week he brings home $21 after taxes. He puts aside $5 for rent and $5 for fuel and has $11 left over for food, clothes and whatever else his wife and three children need.

The Overseers of The Poor in Biddeford alone were helping 1,400 persons and 140 families were totally dependent on handouts. The radio appeals brought pledges from Portland merchants. Mayor Clement F. Deschambeault of Biddeford said: "What my people want is jobs, not charity."

The Textile Workers Union wrote to President Eisenhower asking for more "defense" work for the twin cities (the textile mills had run out of orders for machine guns); public works; extension of unemployment benefits; help for the depressed textile industry.

THE MIDWEST: The Midwest showed the same bleak picture. Unemployment claims were up 83% over last year in Indiana, 72% in Illinois, 54% in Wisconsin. (For a picture of the hardest hit city of the nation see the Detroit story, above.) In Chicago unemployment insurance claims were double those of a year ago. State labor groups called for a special session of the legislature to speed public works. The city had already doubled its appropriation for municipal public works and still unemployment was rising rapidly. In Roseville, Mich., last month 700 men queued up in 6 degree weather to get free food packages from government surplus.

A reporter of the Madison, Wisc., **Capital Times** stopped in at the headquarters of Local 1533 of the United Steelworkers in Beloit. He found a group of worried Americans there, including the local's vice president, Gene Turman, who wonders how to keep up a household of wife, grandmother, a sick daughter, another daughter who works as a nurse, three grandchildren—all on a three-day week netting $48 in take-home pay.



Bastian in San Francisco Chronicle

The reporter also found Ted Langmo, 63, who worked for the Fairbanks-Morse locomotive foundry for 15 years. He was laid off last November. If he isn't recalled by next November he loses his pension and at his age, even in good times, he would have no hopes for a job. Fairbanks-Morse has laid off over 1,600 men in one year.

FOOD HAND-OUTS: In Lorain, O., day-old bread was handed out to families on relief last month. Memphis had bread lines. In Chattanooga, too, the City Relief Bureau doled out surplus food. The city had been hard hit by the shutdown of the Tennessee Products and Chemical Co. last Fall. Mayor P.R. Ilgiati said: "This is the second time in my public career that I have seen food distributed here at Warner Park." His first time, he added, was in 1935.

That same reminiscent mood affected Ben Rabin, manager of the Passaic office of the New Jersey Division of Employment Security. He watched 12 lengthening lines of applicants for unemployment benefits and said: "It carries me back to 1933, the year I went to work for the State Labor Dept. We didn't have unemployment insurance then. But we had lines like that—and people with problems like that." Typical of the problems was that of a young man who told a reporter he gets the maximum benefit, and added: "But I have a wife and two kids. What can you do with $35 a week?"

It was no better in the West. In Oregon and Montana close to 13% of those entitled to unemployment insurance were out of work. Lumber has been slumping for a long time. California's insured unemployed was up 95%. Four out of every 100 workers in the Bay Area were jobless with the big layoffs coming in metals, machinery and electrical equipment industries. California was a mecca for the unemployed of other states who seemed to be drifting westward across the country. The State's Bureau of Public Assistance reported that half of the families asking for help failed to qualify because they lacked three years' residence. The Salvation Army and other private agencies said they were "swamped."

'WAIT FOR SPRING': Everywhere Negro workers were the first to feel the axe. In Detroit three out of four on relief were Negroes. In some Los Angeles offices 30% of the applicants for jobless benefits were Negroes. Wesley Brazier, secy. of the L.A. Urban League, said: "It's getting rougher and rougher for Negroes to obtain employment. Our experience indicates there is evidence now of outright discrimination, and as the job market tightens there will be more discrimination."

Labor leaders were working out programs for "defense" work and public works. Fort Seward, Calif., saw the birth of the first local of a new union, The Unemployed Workers of America. Founded by Tom Scribner, editor of a scrappy mimeographed newspaper, **The Lumberjack News and The Unemployed Worker**, it is open to "every unemployed or part time worker, and all recipients of the present inadequate social security." Its headquarters: **The Lumberjack News**, Fort Seward, Calif.

From Federal and State officials came this advice to a worried nation: Wait until the spring pick-up. Some of the unemployed wondered how they would get by the winter and noted that the prophets did not say which year's spring would pick them up again.

THE PROPOSAL FOR A UNITED SOCIALIST TICKET

A full mailbag—on independent political action

On Feb. 3 the GUARDIAN published as a paid advertisement the text of a proposal by the Socialist Workers Party that the American Left back a joint socialist ticket in the 1958 elections. As a basis for unity, the SWP offered five propositions: (1) "A realistic alternative to the insane drive towards thermonuclear war;" (2) Measures to "counterbalance" the present recession; (3) For "full equality and brotherhood of all races and nationalities;" (4) For full democracy; (5) For independent political action with an ultimate goal of "a labor party based on the unions."

Proposition 1 referred to "the countries of the Soviet orbit . . . who are fighting for their freedom," while Proposition 4 called for "political freedom throughout the Soviet bloc."

GUARDIAN readers have responded enthusiastically to the call for independent political action and endorse the SWP's domestic planks, but many take exception to Propositions 1 and 4. A sampling of the GUARDIAN's mail is presented herewith.

For non-intervention

LEETONIA, O.

I agree with you that there is need for unification of socialist forces in this country. I agree with the SWP that there is a possibility of some unity in the election campaigns of 1958. On the basis of that portion of their proposals relating strictly to domestic affairs, I should say that there ought to be unity all the way around, for surely it is time that socialism be presented as the remedy for all the evils of capitalism that, on top of all, threaten to extinguish the human race in a nuclear war.

But it seems perfectly obvious to me that it would serve neither the cause of socialism as a world movement, nor the cause of socialist unity in the U.S. to join hands with the Dulles brothers, the Crusade for Freedom, Radio Free Europe and the Voice of America in an attempt to overthrow the socialist states of Eastern Europe and even the Soviet Union itself. I can see no other meaning in the SWP proposal to help the people under the "Soviet orbit" to "free" themselves.

In view of the threat of nuclear war, it seems to me that the only sort of foreign policy for socialists to promote is a policy based upon the idea that to exist as a nation we must permit other nations to exist —in other words, a policy of strictest non-intervention in the affairs of other countries.

John W. Marshall

Situation in Ohio

CLEVELAND, O.

Here in Ohio, where it is technically impossible for any minor party to get on the ballot, advocates of a Labor Party, as well as socialists of all tendencies, must recognize that the only hope for breaking the Democratic-Republican monopoly of state politics is through a united anti-capitalist campaign.

The absence of such an alternative up to now has made a farce of the so-called "political action" of the labor movement in Ohio.

Working people are being subjected to a double-barrelled attack aimed at making them pay to protect the rate of profit. Unemployment is growing by such leaps and bounds that Columbus bureaucrats one day recently attempted a blackout of news on the subject. At the same time the employers' organizations have launched a concerted drive to pass a phony "right-to-work" law in order to destroy the unions.

In this situation a **united** socialist campaign is a **necessity** to combat the anti-union drive and to offset the disastrous effects of unemployment. **J.S.**

Self-contradictory

FORT SEWARD, CALIF.

A third political party based on socialism is much to be desired; however, the SWP does not fill the bill. In their proposed platform, there is too much ambiguity. In Point 1 they say they wish to render aid to the nations of the Soviet (i.e. socialist) orbit. Presumably, this is to split the Soviet bloc, as they claim they oppose communism.

In Point 4, the SWP is self-contradictory. It says that socialism stands for a deepening and extension of democracy, and then says that it will fight for political freedom in the Soviet (i.e. socialist) bloc of nations. We are of the opinion that the SWP is merely out to confuse the issues and the voters. Therefore, they won't get very far, before they are again discredited.

Ben & Tom Scribner
Lumberjack News

For good common sense

MURRIETA, CALIF.

We were glad to see by the SWP ad that there was someone willing to challenge the madness that is destroying America. The five suggested propositions to start with are excellent, except for the fourth: "For political freedom throughout the Soviet bloc." That weakens the platform.

Keep our energies centered on our home problems and solve them by a truthful, positive, strong and progressive platform that will re-establish the constitutional rights and privileges of the American people.

A country that is in chaos in a governmental sense has no business moralizing on how it should straighten out the affairs of other nations—that is not good common sense.

E. H. Lea

To work!

BAYPORT, N. Y.

The statement by the Natl. Committee of the Sosialist Workers Party should be welcomed in a fraternal manner by all sections of the American Left.

In all our considerations, the role of the NATIONAL GUARDIAN and those close to it who have already contributed so much to a meaningful regroupment needs to be stressed. The GUARDIAN has the respect of the Left to a degree matched by no other publication or organization.

The principle of non-exclusion must guide us in our efforts to achieve a united ticket in New York State, as elsewhere. No radical, regardless of past or present affiliation, should be kept from full and equal participation. At the same time we cannot afford to abstain from action because of those who decline to join with us due to their own sectarian interests or reliance on the old parties of capitalism.

To place our hopes in "coalition politics," which in essence means capitulation to the pro-war, anti-civil-liberties and blatantly racist forces that control the Democratic Party is to abdicate all responsibility. Let those who would urge us to support Harriman remember the role of that millionaire in pushing the Cold War and the witch-hunt.

The need of a united socialist ticket is vital. It must be as broad and truly representative of the Left as humanly possible. For myself—I have a petition-board and am willing to travel. The same is true of many others here in Nassau and Suffolk counties that I've talked to and I've no doubt the picture is the same elsewhere. Let's get to work.

George R. Stryker

Salute from youth

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

As a young person just entering political awareness and discussion, I feel that this is a direction in the right way—a break with the Democratic and Republican Party, and a fresh start in a progressive spirit. Although I have no illusions as to mass support or victory of this movement, I think it is time that the Left made a concerted effort to unite their forces and build up future support for this idea.

I salute you on printing the SWP proposal. It gives the youth in this country something positive to talk about and act upon, and an outlook for a better society. **Jean Bradford**

Talk in Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

The excellent proposal has given rise to considerable favorable comment in labor circles in Minnesota. A united ticket would undoubtedly gain wide support from both workers and working farmers here.

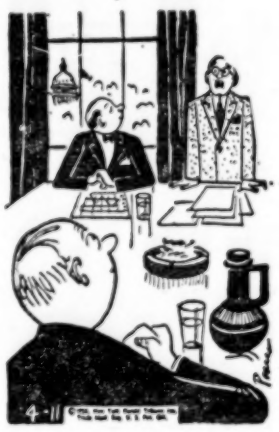
The Feb. 10 GUARDIAN carried substantial excerpts from a statement on working class politics adopted by the Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union Executive Board. It's a ringing declaration, proposing in essence a break by the trade union movement from any alliance with either of the major parties!

That the ILGWU does not officially support the project for a United Socialist Ticket is well known. Nevertheless, the statement is, I think, evidence that there is widespread sentiment in the ranks of that powerful union for **independent** working class political action!

The **Militant** (Feb. 17) carries the Seattle story of the remarkable campaign results of Jack Wright, running on the program of the SWP: 5,554 votes counted for him equal 10% of the vote cast!

I cite but two of the many examples available, which indicate that positive action for a United socialist ticket in 1958 is both feasible and necessary.

V. R. Dunne



N.Y. Herald Tribune

"Naturally we have no farmers on our farm problem committee. They're all too busy on the farms."

Francois in Tribune des Nations

There comes a moment at which to stop the war talk and start the political discussions.

Strong exception

NEW YORK, N.Y.

I agree that it would be a forward step to launch a united ticket against the two parties of big business if this could win the support of thousands of workers. However, I take strong exception to Proposition 1 which speaks of a realistic alternative "to the drive toward thermonuclear war," but makes no mention of the prime requisites for peace in the world today—coexistence of the two greatest powers—the U. S. and the U.S.S.R., based on peaceful competition in the economic, cultural and scientific research areas.

The SWP speaks of socialism but does not admit the existence of socialist countries today and refuses to recognize the tremendous accomplishments of the U.S.S.R., of the socialist nations of Central Europe and the outstanding development of Peoples China since 1949.

Name Withheld

That's their business

BRENTWOOD, CALIF.

I see no reason at all why the SWP proposal cannot be supported as is by any honest believer in socialism or by any progressive who wishes to promote the welfare of the common people. I differ with the SWP, so far as I can tell, on one question, only: I feel that the welfare of all peoples in the socialist countries may safely be left to such peoples themselves and to the various governments they have set up, and that we in America, while reserving the right to criticize policies or practices of such governments, should not under present circumstances engage in a campaign directed against the leadership of any such government, or seek to influence the people who support it to remove it.

Hal Driggs

The important thing

BROOKLYN, N.Y.

Commenting on the SWP's call, I would like to register my hearty approval. An open, honest radical party that is a "front" for nobody gives the worker a real choice. To me it is petty to quibble over whether the independent and progressive party that we support is the SWP or something a bit different, for the important thing is to have a party that can make use of free election time and TV and radio time during a period like this with which to build the forces of the Left. If we don't do such a thing during a time of mass unemployment, continuing "coalitions" with the Cold War warriors Harriman and Stevenson indefinitely, then the Left will shrink and dry up for the lack of fresh blood.

Young Unionist

New party needed

NEW YORK, N.Y.

The times demand a new socialist party. Let's call it the United Socialist Party which would include all socialists and appeal to minorities, workers, intellectuals, etc. Nothing that's happened in the last 15 years has lessened the need for socialism, particularly since the danger of war is still with us. Rising unemployment, racial discrimination and a host of other issues still remain with us. I say let's continue the fight of the progressives in the 20's and 30's for peace and prosperity.

Carl Becker

For a full slate

BABYLON, N. Y.

We are very much in favor of the appeal from the SWP for a united independent political party running its own candidates. This gives progressives a chance to protest against the cold war policy of the two major parties, and to vote for civil liberties. Also we think it is important to run a full slate. This gives us a chance to be on the ballot for the Presidential election in 1960.

Otto & Olava Skattedal

Labor's Daily, Bettendorf, Iowa

More alive than dead

Point of departure?

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

It's about time!! I feel that despite whatever differences may exsist among socialists, common action is possible and necessary.

However, I think one point of Proposition 4 deserves some reconsideration. It calls "for political freedom throughout the Soviet bloc . . .". It is so glaringly out of context with the rest of the proposals as to invite comment. First, it assumes that all Socialists are in agreement that political freedom does not exist within the Soviet bloc. Secondly, many people may well ask, "Why pin-point the Soviet bloc? How about Spain, Algiers, Tunisia, and other countries where we know for certain there is no political freedom?"

This point will serve as a "Point of Departure" rather than a "Point of Agreement." I think that at this time the discussion of an effective electoral policy ought to concern itself with domestic issues upon which we can all agree.

A. H.

Turning point?

BROOKLYN, N.Y.

This proposal, if consummated, will mean a big step forward for the entire radical movement. It may well mark the turning point in the regroupment of the radical forces of the country.

Ben Stone

THE EMBATTLED YOUNGSTERS OF LITTLE ROCK

The story of Minnie Jean Brown—a saga of hate

By Louis E. Burnham

MINNIE JEAN BROWN is a big-boned, healthy girl with a happy disposition. She walks through life with a full stride, eager for new adventures. A radiant smile accentuates her natural high spirits and in all her 16 years she has made friends with unaffected ease.

At Little Rock's all-Negro Horace Mann High School, Minnie Jean had been "in everything." She went from one extra-curricular activity to another. Her grades were superior. Last fall she said she wanted to be a social worker or "some kind of official for the NAACP." She was the kind of girl about whom the older folks would say: "That child's going to be somebody."

Possibly that's the reason Minnie Jean became the main target of a persistent campaign of harassment after nine Negro children, under Federal protection, began attending school with some 2,000 whites at Central High School last October. If a small group of aggressive student segregationists could break her spirit and force her out, a big part of their battle would be won.

Last October Minnie Jean gave up her French class because a white boy tripped her every time she came up the aisle. She didn't want any trouble.

ONLY A BEGINNING: But her troubles had just begun. Two days before the start of the Christmas vacation, Minnie Jean was suspended for nine days. She had tripped as two white boys moved their chairs in the lunchroom and her bowl of chili had spilled on one of them. The boys said it was an accident, but the suspension held.

On Jan. 16 Minnie Jean returned to Central High under orders from Principal Jess W. Matthews not "to retaliate verbally or physically to any harassment." Then the harassment really began in earnest. David Sontag, a white boy, dumped a tray of food on Minnie Jean. Other Negro students also bore the brunt of their fellow-students' wrath. Jefferson Thomas was choked by an unidentified white boy near the gymnasium. A young gallant kicked Carlotta Walls and another kicked Minnie Jean "as hard as he could" at the school entrance in the presence of her mother. All the nine were cursed and vilified at every turn. Minnie Jean summed it up:

Minneapolis Star

NOT SO LITTLE.

"For five months the situation has been almost unbearable. I don't think people realize what goes on at Central. They throw rocks, they spill ink on your clothes, they call you nigger, they just keep bothering you every five minutes.

"All of us were ordered to be humble to the white pupils. They hate me and I know it. No matter what I do that happens to be good, they keep on hating me. Once I had several white acquaintances, but now I have only one, a girl. Make that half a friend. When she's with me she's my friend. When she's with the white students, she acts differently. I just can't take everything they throw at me without fighting back."

NO RIGHT TO TALK: After five months, Minnie Jean did not fight—but she did talk back. Two weeks ago Frankie Ann Gregg, a schoolmate, followed Minnie Jean from classroom to classroom. She stepped on the Negro girl's heels. She taunted her time and again: "Nigger, I just hate you; I just hate your guts." After a week of this Minnie Jean called her tormentor "white trash," and Frankie Ann hit her on the head with her pocketbook.

Principal Matthews ordered Minnie Jean out of the school and explained: "She was suspended for talking back to a white girl, Minnie Jean has no right to retaliate." School superintendent Virgil Blossom recommended that the school board expel Minnie Jean and the board concurred. The expulsion barred the Negro girl, not only from Central High, but from any other public school in Arkansas for the remainder of the school term.

Following her expulsion, Minnie Jean accepted an offer of a $1,050 scholarship to the New Lincoln School, a private inter-racial institution in New York. In Little Rock, she had traveled 1½ miles to the jimcrow Horace Mann School. When desegregation came she could walk nine blocks to Central. On Feb. 22 she journeyed 1,081 miles to get the education denied her because she "talked back to a white girl."

HOW LONG, O LORD? Arriving in New York, Minnie Jean told the press: "Things cannot go on as they are. I'm praying for the other kids, but I don't think they are going to stand it."

The group of active segregationists at Central High is estimated at no more than 50 students. But it is militant, and it is encouraged by powerful adult groups outside the school.

Observers trace the recent turmoil in the school to Faubus's ambition for a third term, the reluctance of school officials to crack down on troublemakers and the failure of the Federal government to prosecute mob members who led the violent resistance to desegregation last fall.

COURTS AND DYNAMITE: There was no question that the segregationists had the upper hand in Little Rock. On Lincoln's birthday Faubus signed a proclamation revoking the state franchise of the NAACP. On Feb. 20 the school board, apparently not satisfied with the expulsion of Minnie Jean Brown, returned to the Federal courts with a request that had been denied last September: that the whole program of integration be suspended pending further clarification of the Supreme Court's "all deliberate speed" edict.

Meanwhile, an unfused, uncapped dynamite stick was found in the garage of Dr. Lee Lorch in Southwest Little Rock on Feb. 14. Dr. Lorch is the white mathematics professor at Philander Smith College, a Negro Methodist institution, and has been prominently identified with the NAACP. Last Sept. 3 his wife, Mrs. Grace Lorch, defied an angry mob which followed Elizabeth Eckford, a Negro student, after she had been turned away from Central High by the National Guard.

THE TROOPS WERE OUTFLANKED
Minnie Jean Brown (c.) as she was escorted to school in Little Rock last fall.

FRONDIZI IS NOT PERON'S MAN

What the election in Argentina means

ON FEB. 23 ARGENTINES went to the polls in the first free presidential election in 30 years. There were no charges of fraud, corruption or terror. Some 8,000,000 men and women gave what, on latest returns, seemed a landslide victory to Dr. Arturo Frondizi, a 49-year-old lawyer of the Radical Party. He is expected to enter the Presidential Casa Rosada (The Pink House) on May Day.

Swamped in the rush to Frondizi were the hopes of Ricardo Balbin, another Radical Party lawyer who last year led a Right-wing split from the party ranks after Frondizi's nomination. Balbin ran with the quiet but unmistakable backing of Gen. Pedro Eugenio Aramburu, whose military administration has run the country since Peron's downfall.

U. S. SEES 'DEAL': Under Argentina's electoral college system of naming presidents, the top candidate in a particular district gets two-thirds of the electors; the runner-up gets one-third and all the others get nothing. The Conservatives had no chance of scoring first or second and many of the far Right probably chose Balbin as the "lesser evil."

U. S. newspapers were quick to brand the Frondizi victory as the product of a three-way deal among Frondizi radicals, Peronistas and Communists.

The Communist Party, which had nominated Rudolfo Ghioldi, withdrew him in favor of Frondizi, though the CP retained its Congressional candidates. In the final weeks a high-ranking Peron lieutenant spread the word that Peron, who had hitherto urged his supporters to cast blank ballots, had changed his mind and was now calling for Frondizi votes.

The directive had tough sledding. **Palabra Argentina** passionately recalled the late Evita Peron and said: "The beloved memory of an unforgettable woman compels us to fight for the rescue of our leader and his movement. We shall vote blank." Another Peron paper, **Rebeldia,** reminded its readers that Frondizi had always been among Peron's most bitter enemies and said that as a paper it would "not abide by Peron's order."

DEAL DENIED: Frondizi insisted he made no deal. He had long ago announced his policy of amnesty for all political leaders and movements.

There were grounds for belief last week that Peron issued his directive by way of jumping on a bandwagon. In the election of delegates to the Constituent Assembly last July Peron had called for blank ballots and his followers turned in over 2,000,000 of them, indicating considerable strength.

But actually the process of disintegration within the Peronista movement was already under way. In 1954 there were 5,000,000 Peronista votes. Last July it was estimated that about 2,000,000 of those votes went to Frondizi Radicals and 2,000,000 were blank. Of the remaining million a considerable number apparently swung sharply Left and voted Communist, boosting the CP total to over 230,000. With or without directives the process of disintegration among the Peronistas would have continued.

THE BIG QUESTION: Ever since Peron left Argentina in 1955 the big question was, which way would the workers swing? The Peron machine had been a gravy bowl for swarms of politicians, but Peron had the good sense to ladle out a portion at least to the workers, and they in turn formed the basis of his support.

The military men of the Aramburu regime approached the workers after the revolution as if they were the major enemy. Troops ringed workers' areas and fired on their demonstrations while the middle class toasted Peron's downfall in champagne. Then the regime clamped down a rigid control over the trade unions in the name of cleansing them of Peronism. For three years the workers of Argentina were suspect. The Balbin wing of the Radicals had no taste for courting the workers. The Radicals had always been a middle-class party led by lawyers and any other course seemed dangerous—even radical.

ARTURO FRONDIZI
A New Deal for Argentina?

It seemed clear to many observers that there could be no economic or political stability in Argentina while the working class was considered a Fifth Column. When Frondizi set out to win the workers from Peronism his campaign was denounced as Peronistic. The significant aspect of last week's election was that the workers had again elected a president and this time it was not Peron. What Frondizi stands for was best summed up in an exclusive interview he granted the GUARDIAN's Ursula Wassermann last April.

A 'NEW DEALER': At that time Frondizi came out for public control of "that part of the economy which is of vital interest to the nation as a whole" and for free reign to private enterprise in other fields. That seemed to safeguard Argentina's petroleum while not ruling out foreign investments in other areas.

He blamed Argentina's "chronic" farm crisis on "the monopoly economy which operates in the most fertile regions of this country aggravated by an out-dated system of land tenure, erosion and general impoverishment of the soil." Land reform, never fulfilled by Peron, would break up the huge haciendas of the cattle barons and introduce a technological revolution in the countryside. Frondizi also told the GUARDIAN he favors public aid to industrialize the country and foreign trade with all possible countries, without regard to political considerations.

Miss Wassermann characterized Frondizi as a New Dealer. She said that "vested interests" were out to frustrate a New Deal in Argentina. Last week some die-hards among the military were muttering about balking at turning over the Casa Rosada on May 1. But Frondizi, with his plurality piling up, seemed unworried. The downfall of dictators in Venezuela, Peru, Colombia, and the troubles in Cuba seemed a happy omen for a Latin New Dealer.

Give This Paper To A Friend

Britain in uproar

(Continued from Page 1)

nuclear weapons. If it continued as a nuclear base it "would be reduced to a radioactive charnel-house in not less than 25 minutes and not more than six hours." The government's "Defense White Papers," admitting Britain could not be defended and threatening nuclear reprisals for any undefined aggression, offered the consolation that "just before or just after we're incinerated we'll be joined in the hereafter by a large number of Russians." King-Hall wanted to "defend our way of life" but wondered "what is the use of a way of life without life?" By renouncing these weapons Britain would save £800,000,000 and gain not only more security but leadership of world public opinion which—as Gen. Keighley had reason to observe after Suez—"is a military factor of increasing importance."

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament's platform is to stop all nuclear tests and missile bases, establish neutral and nuclear-free zones, abolish manufacture and stockpiling of the weapons and prevent other nations from acquiring them. Pending negotiations, it calls on Britain to suspend tests, nuclear patrol flights and construction of missile bases. The cardinal point, which local CND committees are now spreading across the land, is unilateral action by Britain to break the deadlock. The United Nations Assn. here has come out for an almost identical program.

GOVERNMENT BAN: Apart from scores of meetings, the movement is sponsoring mass marches on nuclear weapon plants and the sites of four planned missile bases. Government reaction has been rough-handed dispersal, with police dogs and eight arrests, of a demonstration outside Premier Macmillan's house after the CND meeting; and a ban on CND marchers' assembling in Trafalgar Square on Good Friday morning.

The breadth of feeling on the nuclear crisis has only begun to show up in the British press. One negative indication of it was the decision of the **Times**, a paper traditionally covering the news however unpleasant, to suppress any report of the Central Hall meeting. The **Manchester Guardian** favors a British initiative in abandonment of nuclear weapons but "only in return for international agreement" by all countries except the U.S. and U.S.S.R. The **Mirror** wants Britain to "declare immediately that she will halt all further H-tests."

Dyad in London Daily Worker
"Wot we want is a launching site in Russia."

In the Commons foreign affairs debate, centering around summit talks which both parties vowed they wanted, the Labour Party maintained its weak-kneed position contrary to the decisions of its own annual conference. The **Manchester Guardian** commented that the speech by party leader Gaitskell, who "wanted to clear himself of any notion that he was an appeaser or a 'softie'" or opposed to NATO, "must have sounded unexceptionable to Mr. Macmillan."

Bevan, whose ear is more sensitive to rank-and-file opinion, took a slightly stronger line; but the essence of Macmillan's summing-up speech was "what nonsense to emphasize differences when there was so much agreement between the parties" (**Daily Express**). Only the pitiful performance of Foreign Secy. Lloyd forced Labour to call for a protest vote against the dawdling on summit talks, which was lost by 66.

THINGS TO COME: Both the parties were shaken by the latest by-election at Rochdale. The Tories, because their man was swamped and 80% of the votes went to Labour and the Liberal party; the Labour leaders because, although their man won (with a reduced vote), the electors never got excited as between one party and another but "were chiefly stirred by the bomb" and the desire to get rid of it.

The Rochdale story was that the Liberals came out for unilateral abandonment of nuclear weapons, and Labour was then compelled to take the same position (which the candidate personally supported) or risk a Liberal victory. A few days later Gaitskell, with a mirthlessly fraternal beam on his face, welcomed to Parliament its new Labour member, who had been elected on an outright ban-the-bomb platform officially repudiated by his party.

Political gossips prophesy another "rebellion" by extreme Right-wing Tories, who object to the government's rocket-site policy as a further surrender of British sovereignty to Dulles. Whether or not this emerges in the forthcoming defense debate, the magnitude of the ferment throughout the electorate is not yet likely to be reflected in Parliament.

But as Canon Collins told the CND demonstration, after rebuking his own church's nuclear-minded bishops: "Rochdale was but a flea-bite compared with what is coming to politicians of whatever party if they persist in arming Britain with nuclear weapons. We intend to persuade a majority of British people to demand that, with or without the agreement of others, the government must at once take action."

The Golden Rule, struck by storm, turns back—but will sail again

PRAYERS OF PEACE lovers went with the Golden Rule when it sailed from San Francisco on Feb. 10 bound for the "danger areas" of the Pacific to protest U.S. nuclear bomb tests scheduled there this Spring. Meetings, like the one shown above on the Sunday before sailing, drew hundreds to the pier.

Skipper Albert Bigelow (seated at far left facing audience) and his three-man crew listened while Dr. J. Steward Innerst of the First Friends Church in Pasadena led the worship. But on Feb. 19, 700 miles at sea, the 30-foot ketch was crippled by a storm and had to head back to port. New equipment and provisions were being prepared at San Pedro for a fresh try.

Meanwhile Non-Violent Action Against Nuclear Weapons, sponsors of the Golden Rule, announced opening of a new front in the fight against nuclear bomb tests. Two leaders of the group, Lawrence Scott and Bayard Rustin, exec. secy. of the War Resisters League, applied for passports and visas to go to Britain and the Soviet Union. Others may also join the team. The group said:

"We desire a face-to-face encounter with the Soviet people. We shall urge them to take Gandhi-like direct action for the suspension of nuclear tests . . . We shall not be deterred by obstacles which may arise from pursuing our intention . . ."

Scott is shown (left) when he protested U.S. tests in Nevada last August.

AMERICAN ORGANIZATION seeks PEER to welcome American visitors at weekly cocktail parties in London. Write Box A 515. The Times E. C. 4.

—From the Personal Column,
The Times of London, Jan. 27

Russell: An even chance for life 40 years hence

This is what Bertrand Russell, widely regarded as the greatest living philosopher and mathematician, told the London rally Feb. 17:

THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT issue in the whole history of man. One part of what has to be done is easy; stop the tests, which are already doing greater cumulative damage than most people realize. British medical experts estimate that they may so far have caused 50,000 cases of cancer. Governments are spending large sums on how to prevent cancer and far more on how to cause it. Rains have become radioactive throughout the world. The tests are easy to stop because they cannot be concealed. Dr. Edward Teller says they can be, but he is a paid expert of the U.S. government and I have never been able to find an unpaid expert who agrees with him.

There is serious danger of nuclear war by accident—it is extremely likely to break out without anyone intending it. The danger will increase if France, Germany and other countries acquire these bombs. To avert it, the only course is for us who have them to renounce them. America and Russia should agree that nobody but they must have them. But if mankind is to survive they must be abandoned everywhere.

Otherwise there will be an explosion and all will be wiped out. It is now an even chance whether any human being will exist 40 years hence. Talk about the 'great deterrent' is absolute nonsense; if it's not going to be used, why have it? If it is used, it is the end. It is no use at all to think of it as a conceivable means to save the peace of the world. Talk about the 'risk' of negotiating is also absolute nonsense. What about the risk of not negotiating? Both sides must put forward honest proposals capable of negotiation, and abandon abuse of each other. No great power can cast the first stone. The only road to the welfare of each is the welfare of all.

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BOOKS

TV and radio plays marred by the setup

CLIFTON FADIMAN, in his introduction to the **Prize Plays of Television and Radio, 1956,*** makes the shoulder-shrugging admission that "we must judge the lives of its products [radio and television] as we judge those of midges and mayflies, not carp and elephants." This tacit acceptance of the ephemeral nature of current dramatic writing in these two media seems to run, like a dull grey thread, through most of the major network output.

On the heartening side is the fact that there **are** so many presentations—dramas, comedies, documentaries that would rate a second look, because they do succeed, in one degree or another, in overcoming the triple-threat of having to sell a product, please as large and comprehensive an audience as possible, and conform to a time-pattern that is rigid and obsessive.

Some of these outstanding shows have been collected in this volume by the Radio Writers Guild of America. A few have even attained the status of minor classics—**A Night to Remember,** by George Roy Hill and John Whedon, dramatizing the sinking of the Titanic; **Bring on the Angels,** by Allan Sloane, a sharply-etched, staccato account of the life and work of H. L. Mencken. One of the **Honeymooner** series is included, **The $99,000 Answer,** by Leonard Stern and Sydney Zelinka—to be read with the mind's ear attuned to the serio-zany pitch of Jackie Gleason's voice; a Rod Serling drama, **Requiem for a Heavyweight,** a **Lassie** story, and even one of the Edgar Bergen shows, a veritable rain of gags. Only the Lassie play, **The Visitor,** by Thelma Robinson, bears the remotest contact to the dominant issue of our country in our time, the integration issue—touching on it obliquely with a tale about the visit of a Japanese boy to a middle-western farm.

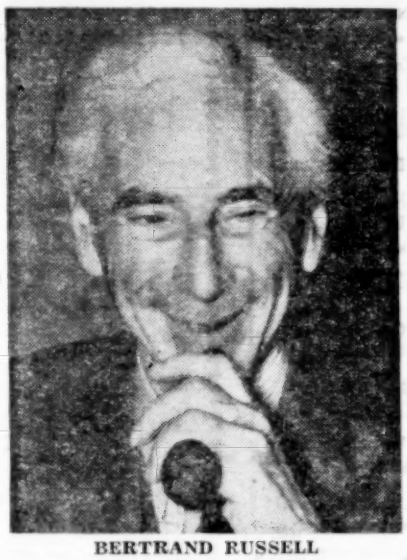
IN PATTERNS, a collection of plays by Rod Serling,** the writer makes his apologia for the superficial climate of TV writing, pointing out the technical difficulties that pile up between the viewer and the machinery of projection. "There will doubtless be plays of ideas in the mass media," he remarks; "the only deterrent is not the audience, it's the medium itself . . ."

This peculiar narrowness of viewpoint, almost like the blinders on a horse, permeates Mr. Serling's earnest critique of his own plays. **Patterns,** which describes the jungle-like struggle for survival of a corporation executive, is not really meant to convey even the slightest reflection on Big Business, Mr. Serling hastens to explain. He points out that it really highlights the competition between youth and middle-age, or, if you insist upon injecting morality into it,

Wall Street Journal
"Actually, I'm listening to 'The Romance of Helen Brent'."

the behavior patterns of "little human beings in a big world—lost, intimidated by it."

THIS THEME of age versus youth is explored in **Requiem for a Heavyweight** (included in the Writers Guild book) and a lighter-weight story called **Old MacDonald Had a Curve,** both of which treat very competently and dramatically with the author's daring excursion into the realm of an idea. **The Rack,** the study of an army officer being court-martialed because he collaborated with the enemy in Korea, is less convincing, probably because of those blinders which the author wore while he was doing all his research in the Pentagon.



BERTRAND RUSSELL
For freedom from fear

Prospective television dramatists are given insights into all the paths and bypaths of the medium in both these volumes—save that of coping with the dominance of the sponsor and his product-slanted viewpoint over the words and music that bear his signature and for which he pays the bills. Until such time as this stultifying feature is removed or ameliorated, TV writing will present a challenge and a promise, and the viewer will have to take what he can get.

—V. Braham

**PRIZE PLAYS OF TELEVISION AND RADIO, edited by Radio Writers Guild with an introduction by Clifton Fadiman. Random House, 457 Madison Av., N. Y. 309 pp. $5.*

***PATTERNS by Rod Serling. Simon & Schuster, 136 W. 52nd St., N. Y. 246 pp. $3.95.*

Hmm . . . well . . .

PRETORIA, So. Africa, Feb. 1 (Reuters)—Prime Minister Johannes Strijdom's private secretary was found guilty today of sexual relations with a 19-year-old African girl.

Gideon Andrew Keyser, 39, was sentenced to four months' imprisonment and four strokes with a cane.

He pleaded guilty to the charge, made under the immorality act, which prohibits sexual relations between white and non-white persons.

'SIMPLE COMMON SENSE'

Russell on religion --the case for reason

BERTRAND RUSSELL has heard rumors that people think he is less anti-religious than he used to be. Scotching them firmly in a preface to this collection of essays "on religion and related subjects," he reaffirms that he thinks "all the great religions—Buddhism, Hinduism, Christianity, Islam and Communism—both untrue and harmful." He adds that "as a matter of logic, since they disagree, not more than one of them can be true." The reader may be left wondering whether there is not some truth in all of them, and whether by the end of the book Russell has not in effect said so.

One can agree with most of his points and still find a curiously old-fashioned note in Russell on Religion. Leaving aside whether communism and its often un-communist record can properly be roasted in the same pot, organized Christianity's un-Christian record is well-known to all who have honestly examined it. But is this horse worth further belaboring just now? Editor Paul Edwards of N. Y. University believes it is, in view of the new flood of religious hypocrisies in the U. S.

CERTAINLY RUSSELL, as a still-active campaigner against the cult of violence and a champion of justice for Morton Sobell, could claim to be more "Christian" than the vast majority of believers. And he is passionately concerned to liberate believers from the fear ("of the mysterious, of defeat, of death") which causes them to embrace supernatural faiths.

But his philosophy takes him all along the road surveyed by Marx except to the conclusion. He says that "we want to" and "should" stand "upon our own feet and look fair and square at the world as it is and be not afraid of it"—as if his words will persuade ordinary people to do so. Marx, who (more poetically, I think) saw religion as "the heart of a heartless world," the flowers bedecking humanity's chains, did not expect it to be dissolved by arguments but by removing the heartlessness and chains which made it necessary. Russell writes movingly of the need for love and co-operation, but rejects anything but gradual logical persuasion as a means of opening the doors to them.

Russell has extreme obsessions about the Soviet union but he seems to draw no conclusions from the fact that, despite his anti-Soviet position since 1920, the foes of his ideas about human relationships and the good life often denounce him as "pro-communist." He "observes" this "with interest" but cannot see it as the high compliment it is, coming whence it comes. They just won't stop associating such ideas with the political movement he most abominates.

EDITOR EDWARDS does the American conscience a service by devoting a long appendix to the story of Russell's ouster from a New York City College teaching job in 1940, when the distinguished agnostic philosopher was anathematized as a "dog," a "bum," an "erotomaniac" and "winker at homosexuality," a would-be nationalizer of women, and somehow connected with "pools of blood" —in addition to being "pro-communist." Among those playing the more obscene

roles in this burlesque were the N.Y. **Times** and our old friend, former Dist. Atty. (now Federal Judge) John F. X. McGohey.

Since then the target of this bar-and-grill invective has been loaded with honors by the guardians of "Christian," violence-dedicated society. In spite of this, and in spite of the obsessions by which his extraordinary brain is partially blinded, his moral courage has not faltered. Whether on religion itself or on "related subjects" from Tom Paine to masturbation, he states the case for reason against superstition with lucidity and forthrightness—qualities which have become positively startling in a liberal philosopher. Most of his views gathered here are simple common sense.

Unfortunately, to those who will read them they are nothing new; while those Americans whom Dr. Russell yearns to reach with his medicine, even if they wanted to sample it, would be scared to death to be caught reading such a book.

—Cedric Belfrage

**WHY I AM NOT A CHRISTIAN, by Bertrand Russell, edited by Paul Edwards. Simon & Schuster, 136 W. 52nd St., N.Y. 259 pp. $3.50.*

Checklist of good reading for kids

ARE YOU A MOTHER, father, uncle, aunt, cousin—or, perhaps, merely a friend and neighbor to children? If so, this Booklist* is for you. Most appropriate reading for Brotherhood Month, it is a 60-page list of recommended books for youngsters, "books about everybody for everybody's sake," a 1957 publication of the American Friends Service Committee and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, aided by more than a score of specialists in children's literature.

The introduction says: "Books are bridges! By means of books, children cross the wide chasms of ignorance, fear and prejudice which often separate peoples of different cultures . . ."

Delightfully annotated, the titles are grouped under nine heads, from "Friends in Other Lands" to "The Human Family," "Songs, Games and Foods" and "Resources for Adults." Under each heading except the last there are lists for kindergarten, primary, and junior to junior high.

DR. KENNETH B. CLARK's fine work, **Prejudice and Your Child,** is here, among "Resources for Adults"—also **Reading Ladders for Human Relations,** by the Assn. for Childhood Education, and the UNESCO series on the race question in modern science, six pamphlets at 25c each. Lillian Smith, in **Now Is the Time,** affirms that prompt integration in American schools is of prime importance in terms of national life and America's relations with the rest of the world.

Prices range from 25c up, and either of the sponsoring organizations will send any book listed, on request, with no charge for postage if remittance is enclosed.

—Ruth Koshuk

**BOOKS ARE BRIDGES: A list of books recommended for children. American Friends Service Committee (Quakers), and Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. 64 pp. 25c. Orders should be addressed to: American Friends Service Committee, 20 S. 12th St., Philadelphia 7, Pa. (c/o EMC), or Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, 515 Madison Av., N.Y. 22, N.Y.*

IN N.Y. ON SAT., MARCH 1

Folklore festival to be offered live and on film

'FOLKLORE AT CARNEGIE' in the Chapter Hall of Carnegie Hall will be presented twice on Sat., March 1, at 8:30 p.m. and midnight. The filmed portion of the program will bring together folk artists Burl Ives, Josh White, Pete Seeger, Woody Guthrie, Brownie McGhee, Sonny Terry, Texas Gladden and others, on the same program. Films to be shown include "To Hear My Banjo Play," "Tall Tales," and a special preview performance of "Music from Oil Drums," recently completed by and with Pete Seeger.

Tickets are $2.89 and $1.80, available at the main Carnegie Hall box office, Seventh Av. and 57th St. (CI 7-7460), and at the Folklore Center, 110 MacDougal St. (3 p.m. to midnight).

LOS ANGELES

The L.A. Eastside Guardian Committee
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Dr. Scott Nearing

Speaking On:

History Challenges Socialism

Impressions & observations of his recent trip around the world

Helen and Scott Nearing returned in January from four months abroad, spending time in major European and Asian countries. Dr. Nearing is an economist, author and lecturer of international reputation.

MR. AARON BRAUDE, CHAIRMAN

Questions and floor discussion

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Women's Day festival in B'klyn March 8

THE 50th Anniversary of Women's Day will be observed Saturday, March 8, at 8:30 p.m., at Brighton Community Center, 3200 Coney Island Av., Brooklyn.

The celebration, under the auspices of the Kings County Committee of the Communist Party, will depict in song and dance, a half century of socialist leadership in the fight for women's rights. Elizabeth Gurley Flynn will speak.

Admission is free. There will be dancing and refreshments.

Putzi no help

HORNBY ISLAND, B.C., CAN.

That was a very nice piece by James Aronson on Putzi. I knew the b------ too; in fact he introduced me to Adolf but even that didn't kill me; I still made the blacklist!

Harrison Brown

THE GALLERY

HEAVYWEIGHTS AT THE MARTEX TOWEL CO. came up with a hard-sell scheme to cash in on the 95th anniversary of the founding of the Confederacy. They wanted to produce a beach towel printed as a replica of the Confederate flag. The project was on the launching pad and the count-down started when it occurred to them that some sons of Belles of the Confederacy might take offense at a Union bottom being dried with a sacred emblem. To clear it with Dixie they threw a party at New York's swank Plaza Hotel and invited all leading buyers. While a band played **Dixie,** a model draped in the towel and wearing a Johnny Reb hat appeared on stage. On signal, assembled brass let go with a rebel yell.

Buyers were informed that representatives of the Sons of Confederate Veterans had said they were "proud" that Martex had perpetuated the "glorious emblem" in the minds of the nation. Etiquette expert Amy Vanderbilt announced that the "use of the Confederate flag . . . is in excellent taste" and "helps to rebuild an economy which still suffers from the ravages of the War Between the States." At zero, the Confederate towel was ready to be put into orbit with a saturation advertising campaign. However, one sour beep, which might portend failure, was sounded by a damyankee who said: "I wouldn't wipe myself with that towel."

THE FOLLOWING TOOK PLACE in England's House of Commons:

Mr. Nabarro (Kidderminster, Conservative) asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he was aware that, in view of the fact that a nut cracker was liable to purchase tax at 15 percent, whereas a door knocker over five inches in length was free of tax, there was an increasing practice of supplying nut crackers with screw holes so that they could theoretically be used as door knockers, with the result that with such modification these nut crackers became free of tax; and what instructions had been issued to Customs and Excise staff with regard to this matter.

Mr. Simon, Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Middlesbrough, West. Conservative).—No, I do not think Customs staff need instructions to help them distinguish a nut cracker from a door knocker. (Laughter.)

PHYSICIST EDWARD TELLER, who advocates the continued testing of nuclear weapons, was invited to debate the issue with Nobel Laureate Linus Pauling in San Francisco last month. The debate was to be held at a meeting sponsored by five peace groups, including the American Friends Service Committee. Dr. Teller declined the invitation: "I don't believe a mass meeting is the place to discuss this question." Later they debated on TV. . . . Beulah Stowe, NEA writer, believes "the most priceless possession a woman can have is a husband of her own—even if she doesn't like him very much." . . . The Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled that if an employee is injured in a traffic accident while he is crossing the street for a coffee break, he can collect workmen's compensation benefits.

Ludas Matyi, Budapest

THE NEW YORK PRODUCTION of **The Brothers Karamazov,** a huge success at the Gate Theater, 162 Second Av., has granted requests for a German and Yiddish adaptation. Under consideration is a road company to tour the country . . . The Baltimore Junior Red Cross figures it did its bit for national defense: members collected more than 10,000 comic books for the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment moving from Fort Meade to Germany . . . Sign of the times? Number One on New York radio station WINS poll of popular records is a tune called, **Get A Job.**

WHEN FEDERAL JUDGE HAROLD R. MEDINA, who presided at the first Smith Act trial, announced his retirement from the bench March 1, he said he planned "to begin to live like a human being." This, he said, was to include spending time on his 46-foot twin-diesel cruiser because "believe me I love that boat." Court work, he complained, had forced him "to give up billiards, but now I'll be able to play every Wednesday night at the University Club." In summing up his career he characterized himself as an "extremely liberal man, and most certainly not a reactionary. I am not a conformist, either. I was the first man in my class in Princeton to wear a moustache." A possible Medina replacement will be another nonconformist, Irving Kaufman, who sentenced Ethel and Julius Rosenberg to death and Morton Sobell to 30 years.

THE U.S.S.R. HAS INSTITUTED an experiment in 50 high schools designed to give students a better basis for choosing careers after graduation. In urban schools, students will go to class three days a week and spend three days on an "apprentice job" in industry. For farm youth the plan is to go to school during the winter and work on the land in the spring. They will be paid for their work, and exams will be given on the job as well as in the classroom. High school, under this plan, will last two more years. . . . The Chicago **Tribune** says: "New scientific toys help refute those reactionaries who contend it would be impracticable to begin science 'crash programs' in Kindergarten."

—**Robert E. Light**

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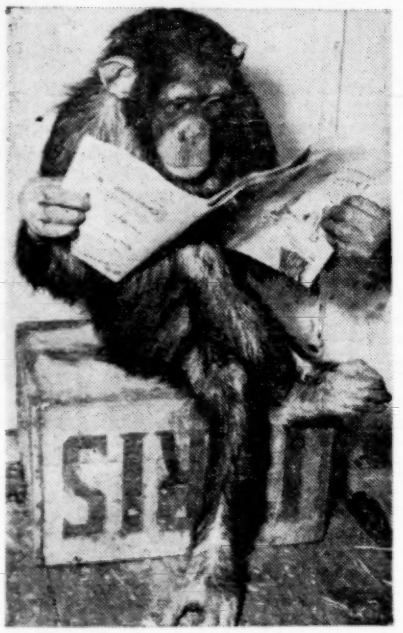

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Guardian price:
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PEDIATRIC DROPS
For infants and children
Nationally advertised brand: $3.50
Guardian Price:
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THERAPEUTIC FORMULA
For run down & convalescents
Nationally advertised brand: $9.45
Guardian Price:
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GERIATRIC FORMULA
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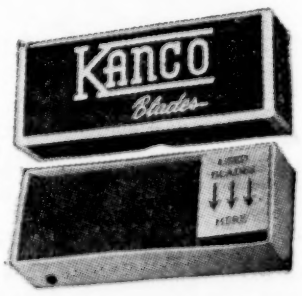

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the SPECTATOR

The heart of Paris . . .

PARIS

MARCEL CACHIN, a founder of the French Communist Party, director of its daily Humanite, *deputy of Paris and honorary president of the National Assembly, died in Paris on Feb. 12 at 88. As a young professor of philosophy, he had entered politics in 1900 and was first elected deputy in 1914. After a visit to Moscow in 1919, he played a leading part in the 1920 split between the French Socialist and Communist Parties over adherence to the Third International. He was imprisoned three times, in 1923 (for opposing French occupation of the Ruhr), in 1927 (for opposing the Rif war) and in 1940 (at the start of the German occupation). He had personally known both Lenin and Stalin. Before he died, he expressed a wish to be buried with his recently-awarded Lenin Order pinned over his heart.*

THERE WERE DELEGATIONS of 18 foreign Communist Parties; there were Senators, Deputies and state honors; there were hundreds of wreaths with names of towns, factories and workers' groups on them; there were mountains of roses and lilacs and carnations and anemones; and the people of Paris took Marcel Cachin on his last journey through Paris on Saturday.

On Friday morning, the old leader had come to his paper for the last time. In the **Humanite** lobby, honor guards and people taking their last leave of Cachin included some of the nation's greatest names in literature and science: Aragon and Joliot-Curie; the widow of Eluard and the son of Langevin.

Telegrams and messages of sympathy were arriving from Japan, Spain and Bulgaria, from Turkey, Korea, Iceland and China.

But above all and everywhere, the people of Paris showed their grief and their affection.

BETWEEN 6 AND 7 on Thursday morning, a young man back from the Algerian War was selling **Humanite** in a populous neighborhood. News of the death of Cachin had only just become known.

A man with a Right-wing paper under his arm hesitated, then got out a coin and bought **Humanite.** "He was **somebody**, all the same . . .," he murmured as he walked away. A youngish man with moist eyes came up to the vendor, but did not buy a paper. He merely said: "Let me express my sympathy. I am a Socialist myself, but today I am feeling with you, with all my heart . . ."

On Friday, all day long an uninterrupted stream of people came into the **Humanite** lobby to bid their deputy goodbye. Among them were old and sick people and youngsters, housewives and intellectuals and workers. Some cried, a few made the sign of the cross, others raised their fist as in Popular Front days.

On Friday afternoon, in the cafe where he has been a customer for the past 20 years, cartoonist Jean Effel said to his waiter: "See you tomorrow." "No, not tomorrow," said the waiter. "Is that your day off?" "No . . . but tomorrow afternoon I am going to be with Cachin."

A woman ordered a wreath in a flower shop. "If it's for Cachin, then we want to do better than that," said the flower woman. "But . . . I am afraid that I won't have enough money . . .," objected the customer. "Don't worry about that. . . . It won't cost you any more."

In the early afternoon, on Saturday, a man carrying a wreath of red carnations drove up to **Humanite** in a taxi. "How much do I owe you?," asked the man. "If you are coming for the funeral," said the taxi driver, "then you don't owe me anything."

SATURDAY WAS AN unexpected spring day, but the time in the sun was a solemn one for many hundreds of thousands, though not without a note of hope. By mid-afternoon, the funeral procession filled the boulevards and streets from **Humanite** to Père Lachaise Cemetery, along which it passed, with a crowd the like of which had rarely been seen since Liberation.

On his last journey through Paris, the old Communist leader fooled those who for the past several years had banned the traditional May Day and Fourteenth of July parades. A funeral is something one can't forbid. As the crowd was passing through Place de la Bastille that has seen all Paris revolutions since 1789, the Left was taking a measure of its strength and gaining fresh confidence.

On the sidewalks, onlookers stood 20 rows deep. "This kind of funeral only a man whom the people love can have," said an old man. "The heart of Paris is something money can't buy."

The old leader had come to his resting place, near that of the heroes of the Commune, and the Père Lachaise doors had closed for the night, before every one in the funeral procession had had time to enter the cemetery.

A woman pushing a baby carriage was among the last of the crowd. Had she been walking a long time? some one asked her. Ever since the start of the funeral, the woman said. And when some one else wondered how she would manage to get back home on foot, what with the subways not taking in baby carriages, she said: "I can do that for him. He has done so much for us."

—Anne Bauer

Robeson to appear in L. A., March 14

PAUL ROBESON will be the guest artist at the 20th anniversary celebration of the **Peoples World** Friday evening, Mar. 14, at the Embassy Auditorium, 9th and Grand, Los Angeles.

Al Richmond, executive editor of the **Peoples World,** will address the gathering. Mrs. Charlotta A. Bass will act as chairman. Admission is 90c and $2.20.